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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" They were audited by departmental auditors."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Since this defalcation is only a symptom of a general disease, will the Government consider the question of setting up an official committee to go into the whole question of defalcations in co-operative societies? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri M. Kalyanasundaram put the same question. Now, we shall take up the next two questions put by the hon. Members Sri M. Kalyanasundaram and Sri K. P. Gopalan."

Opening of fire by French Police on the Mahe border in Malabar.

* 642 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two citizens of our State were shot dead by the French Indian Police in the border area of Mahe during April 1954 ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have made any enquiries into this incident and the results thereof?

* 643 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the French police opened fire on the Mahe border in Malabar on 26th April 1954, resulting in the death of two Indian nationals and injuries to several others; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have made any enquiry into the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) This Government are aware of the incident referred to by the hon. Member.

" (*b*) The matter has been brought to the notice of the Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. The Government of India have also addressed the Embassy of France in India, at New Delhi, expressing their grave concern about the death of and injuries caused to the Indian nationals at the hands of the French Police. They have called for immediate enquiries in the matter and have requested stringent action to be taken against the French Indian Police officers concerned. They have also stressed the need for the payment of compensation to the heirs of the deceased."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM:—" நமது இந்தியப் பிரஜைகளைச் சுட்ட போலீஸ்காரர்களையும், இந்தத் துப்பாக்கிப் பிரயோகத்திற்குக் காரணமாக இருந்த மற்ற அதிகாரிகளையும், இந்திய சர்க்காரின் சட்டப்படி விசாரிப்பதற்கு பிரஞ்சு சர்க்கார் கேஸை டிரான்ஸ்பர் செய்வார்களா ? "

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This incident took place within the French territory. I do not think we will be justified in asking for the transfer of those Police officers for the purpose of inquiry within our jurisdiction."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Are the Government aware that the French Police, after opening fire on the Indian citizens, escaped through Indian territory and will the Government take proper steps to prevent such illegal escape by the French Police at least hereafter? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is no question of any escape of the policemen in this case. They opened fire from within the French borders and there was no question of further escape from there."

MR. SPEAKER :—" What the hon. Member means is that they passed through our territory."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think it is stated that they escaped through the Indian territory to some other place. But we have now taken strict action to see that no French policeman crosses our border."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" How many times did the French Police enter the Indian territory? May I know whether it is a fact that the French Police and their volunteers entered the Indian territory many times and threatened the Indian citizens? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This is a general question, but the main question is with reference to a particular incident which took place in a particular night. Apart from that, I have already given the assurance to the House that we have taken necessary precautions to see that no policeman crosses the Indian border."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" ஒரு இந்தியப் பிரஜை எந்த நாட்டில் சுடப்பட்டாலும்கூட அதை விசாரிப்பதற்கு இடம் கொடுக்கிறது சர்வதேச சட்டம். ஆகவே இவர்களைச் சுட்ட பிரஞ்சு இந்தியப் போலீசாரை இந்திய மண்ணில் விசாரிப்பதற்கு இந்திய சர்க்கார் ஏதாவது ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, if it is an offence, the offence took place within the French territory. It is only the French law that can take cognizance of it. But as our nationals have been involved in it, we have made representations to the French Government for action to be taken."

SRI KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE :—" May I know, Sir, whether reports that have been published in the newspapers to the effect that the French Police crossed the borders and entered Indian Union territory and made some mischief in our territory have come to the notice of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There have been some instances of French policemen crossing our territory but now we have taken stricter precautions to prevent that."

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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Are the Government aware that consequent on this wicked killing of two Indian nationals by the French constables, the people of the area have liberated a small part of, what is called, Cherukallayi, and will the Government of Madras see that it is also ceded to the Madras State? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" What has happened and to which the hon. Member referred is a desirable thing, I suppose. But, even though it has been liberated in the sense that the people of the area have taken charge of the affairs of that area, it will not be possible for the Government of India to straightway take hold of that area. However, the hon. Member may be aware of the news which has been published in the newspapers to-day that on the 14th instant talks for the purpose of negotiating the future of these French Settlements will start. I hope then all the problems will be settled amicably and to the satisfaction of every party concerned."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" In view of the fact that Cherukallayi and Naluthara in French territory are so situated that without entering the Indian territory, no French Police or anybody can go to these French Settlements, will the Government see that trespasses and atrocities committed by the French Imperialists are prevented by stationing more Police forces on the boundary lines? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Every necessary and possible action has been taken and in view of the developments taking place with regard to these French pockets, I think it is not necessary to go into further details on this matter."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The French policemen crossed the Indian border and reached the French territory after shooting with their Sten guns and rifles when there was a prohibitory order that no Frenchman should enter Indian territory, armed with weapons, without a visa. If the Government say that they are unaware of it, will they inquire into how it happened if it were a fact? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" With reference to this incident of shooting as a result of which two persons died and some other persons were injured, the actual incident of shooting took place within the French territory. Whether, after that incident, they crossed the Indian border or not is not quite relevant to the incident of shooting. But apart from these technicalities, representations have been made to the French Government and I am sure that they will be taking necessary action against the policemen concerned. We have also impressed upon the French Government the necessity for paying compensation to the heirs of the deceased. I hope this matter also will be amicably settled."

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SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்தச் சிறுகல்லாய் என்ற ஊரைச் சுற்றி நான்கு பக்கத்திலும் இந்தியப் பிரதேசம்தான் இருக்கின்றது. இப்படி நான்கு பக்கத்திலுமுள்ள இந்தியப் பிரதேசத்தை பிரஞ்சு இந்தியப் போலீசார் கடந்துகொண்டு இதற்குள் வந்து துப்பாக்கிப் பிரயோகம் செய்துவிட்டு மறுபடியும் திரும்பிப்போயிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், இந்திய அதிகாரிகள் ஒருவர்கூட பிரஞ்சு எல்லைக்குள் நுழைவது ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. எப்படி அவர்கள் இந்த இந்தியப் பிரதேசத்தைக் கடந்துகொண்டு உள்ளே வந்து சுட்டுவிட்டு மறுபடியும் திரும்ப இந்தியப் பிரதேசத்தைக் கடந்து தப்பியோட முடியுமென்று கேட்கிறேன். இந்த மாதிரி அநியாயமாக இந்திய மக்களின்மேல் துப்பாக்கிப் பிரயோகம் செய்வதற்குக் காரணமாயிருந்த அதிகாரிகளையும், இந்திய மக்களின் பொருள்களுக்கு நஷ்டம் விளைவித்த அதிகாரிகளையும் விசாரிப்பதற்கு அவர்களை இந்திய சர்க்காரிடம் ஒப்படைக்கவேண்டுமென்றதொரு ஷரத்தை பிரஞ்சு இந்தியப் பிரதேசங்களை, இந்தியாவுடன் இணைக்கும் போதே அந்த ஒப்பந்தத்தில் சேர்க்குமாறு சென்னை அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு சிபார்சு செய்ய விரும்புமா என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Indian Government are in possession of all the facts. I am sure they will take into consideration all the relevant facts in arriving at a settlement. If merger takes place as a result of the settlement, I am sure we ourselves will be inclined to forget all these past incidents and have a quiet and peaceful time after merger."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know what steps our Government have taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have strengthened the Police Force round the French Settlements."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think I have allowed enough time for this question. I pass on to the next question."

Closure of the Ayurvedic pharmacy attached to the College of Indigenous Medicine, Kilpauk.

* 553 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to close down the Ayurvedic pharmacy attached to the College of Indigenous Medicine, Kilpauk, Madras?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The question of continuance or otherwise of the Pharmacy attached to the College of Indigenous Medicine is under consideration of the Government."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" In some newspaper in the Madras City, it was reported some months back that the Hon. the Minister for Public Health expressed the undesirability of continuing the Ayurvedic Pharmacy attached to the College of Indigenous Medicine. May I know from the Hon. Minister what made him make such remarks if he had made them and whether the Government are aware that without the Pharmacy in the proper sense of the word this College will be of no use? "